



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Hausen, Bernard A.; et. al.

Assignee: Vascular Innovations, Inc.

Title: Method and System for Performing Closed-Chest Bypass Graft Surgery

Serial No.: 09/993,438

Filing Date: November 13, 2001

Examiner: Paul A. Roberts

Group Art Unit: 3738

Docket No.: 032405-059

July 31, 2003

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner For Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

**RECEIVED**  
AUG 08 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the Office Action of July 11, 2003.